

TPW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: EZUMI, et al.

Serial No.: 10/791,857

Filed: March 4, 2004

For: FRICTION STIR WELDING METHOD AND GROUP OF
SHAPE MEMBERS FOR FRICTION STIR WELDING

Group: 2817

Examiner: TBD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 28, 2005

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicant's duty of disclosure, enclosed please find an European Search Report, and a copy of the document cited therein, in connection with an European Patent Application corresponding to the above-identified application. Also enclosed is a Form PTO/SB/08A, listing the enclosed cited document.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified application. Accordingly, requirements of 37 CFR 1.97(b) are clearly satisfied.

In any event, the following Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e) is made:

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with the document listed on the enclosed Form. Accordingly, consideration of the listed document, upon examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 648.43604X00) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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WIS/slk
Enclosures



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1

of

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/791,857
Filing Date	March 4, 2004
First Named Inventor	EZUMI, et al.
Art Unit	2817
Examiner Name	TBD
Attorney Docket Number	648.43604X0

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Translation is attached.
This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND

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